

TO		NAME AND ADDRESS	INITIALS	DATE
1.		Intel/DPD		
2.		others in DPD		
3.		C/DB/DPD		
4.		C/SPB/DPD		
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		RETURN TO SENDER C/SRS/DPD		
ACTION		CONCURRENCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INFORMATION
COMMENT		FILE		SIGNATURE
REMARKS				
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NRO and USAF review(s) completed.				
FROM				
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Approved For Release 2004/09/15 : CIA-RDP79B01709A000600080022-5

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.



REPLY TO
ATTN OF: AFCIN

31 AUG 1961

SUBJECT: (U) SAMOS III

TO: Director Central Intelligence Agency (Mr. Dulles)

Assistant Chief of Staff Intelligence (Major General Willems)
Department of the Army

Assistant Chief of Naval Operations
Director Naval Intelligence (Rear Admiral Lowrance)
Department of the Navy

1. (S) The launch of SAMOS III is currently scheduled for on, or about, 9 September 1961. This will be a readout system utilizing the ground readout equipment at the Vandenberg, California and New Boston, New Hampshire readout stations.
2. (S) While the objectives of this launch are primarily R & D the COMOR nationally approved objectives have been passed to the System Developers and will be utilized as the priority list for all operational take programmed.
3. (S) If launch and injection into orbit are successful, the first intelligence take is programmed to be read out commencing on the second day after launch. The estimated active life of the sensor is seven days. The photographic take, in the form of electronic signals reconstructed onto four separate 35 mm primary records, will be air couriered, undeveloped, to the Air Force Satellite Photographic Processing Laboratory (AFSPPL) at Westover AFB, Mass.
4. (S) After initial processing of the 35 mm primary records the following photo products are produced and distributed within each 24 hour period in quantities requested by your exploitation elements.
 - a. Duplicate positives and/or negatives of the 35 mm primary records.
 - b. Untitled, reassembled 9½ x 18 inch block negatives constructed from fourteen 18" long 35 mm primary record stripsets.
 - c. Printouts containing unrefined but reasonably accurate locational information keyed to film frame numbers.

NRO review(s) completed.

CIN-182 (S) # 1198 '61

d. Titled reassembled 9½ x 18 inch data block negative. This product will not be available until the data extracted from the film and that obtained from the tracking stations is correlated and refined by computers into precise locational and attitude titling information. This process is expected to take from 10 to 15 days.

5. (S) To expedite the delivery of these products a plan is in effect that provides for a daily air courier from Westover AFB to the Washington, D. C. area.

6. (U) Every effort has been undertaken to obtain maximum high priority take in consonance with the R & D objectives, insure quality processing and duping of all products and provide for their timely distribution.

7. (U) This letter classified SECRET because it deals with a sensitive collection system. Special Handling Required. Not releasable to foreign nationals.

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NRO



Info cy: JCS J-2 (Major General Collins)

ROBERT A. BREITWEISER
Major General, USAF
Assistant Chief of Staff
Intelligence